

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to Figures 1 and 3. These sheets, which include Figures 1 and 3, replace the original sheets including Figures 2 and 4. In Figures 1 and 3, Applicant submits herewith new figures with legends.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed March 25, 2009 the Examiner noted that claims 1-20 were pending and rejected claims 1-20. Claims 1-19 have been amended, no claims have been canceled, and, thus, in view of the foregoing claims 1-20 remain pending for reconsideration which is requested. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's rejections and objections are traversed below.

OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS

The drawings stand objected to. In particular, the Office asserts that figures 1 and 3 do not include labeling that identifies the components without reference to the Specification. The Applicant submits herewith new figures.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Office states that several terms in the claims are unclear or lack proper antecedent basis. The Applicant has amended the claims to

overcome the rejection.

Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-10, 13-16 and 19-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Daly, U.S. Patent No. 5,878,141 in view of Baumgartner, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0167821. The Applicant respectfully disagrees and traverses the rejection with an amendment.

The Applicant notes that Baumgartner was filed on February 21, 2003. The instant Application was filed April 5, 2005. However, the instant Application claims priority to PCT/FR03/01081 filed April 4, 2003 and French Application 02/04361, filed April 8, 2002. The Applicant perfects priority by submitting herewith a verified English translation of the French Application. Thus, priority having been perfected, the Applicant submits that a prima facie case of obviousness has not been made as Baumgartner is not prior art.

Claims 11-12 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Daly in view of Baumgartner in view of Riley, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0010800.

The Applicants submit that the instant Application pre-dates Baumgartner and therefore a prima facie case of obviousness

has not been made.

Claims 17 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Daly in view of in view of Adam, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0181710.

The Applicants submit that the instant Application pre-dates Baumgartner and therefore a prima facie case of obviousness has not been made.

Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

SUMMARY

It is submitted that the claims satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§ 112 and 103. It is also submitted that claims 1-20 continue to be allowable. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX: The Appendix includes the following item(s):

- ☐ - a terminal disclaimer
- ☐ - a 37 CFR 1.132 Declaration
- ☐ - a new or amended Abstract of the Disclosure
- ☒ - a Replacement Sheet for Figures 1 and 3 drawings
- ☐ - a Substitute Specification and a marked-up copy of the originally-filed specification
- ☒ - a verified English translation of foreign priority document